

# Pugilists put pride, power on display in ring

## Boxing from Page 1

"Some of the fighters clearly did not have a lot of experience, but that made it that much more entertaining," Badertscher said. "You've got to give the guys credit, because they gave it their best effort."

The night's three bouts were scheduled for four one-minute rounds each, but the first fight of the night (in which Lt. Cmdr. Glenn Yeck of Headquarters, U.S. European Command, won by decision over Cpl. Luke Wilson of the 587th Signal Company) was the only one to go the distance.

The quickest bout was the event's final one, with Pvt. Zachary Sprague, also of the 587th, stopping Master Sgt. Sam Tidwell of Special Operations Command, Europe, in less than 30 seconds.

Both fighters came out swinging from the opening bell, but Tidwell twisted his knee and was forced to retire.

Climbing out of the ring with a winner's trophy in hand, Sprague said he was surprised not only by the relative ease of his victory, but that he had even laced up the gloves in the first place.

"They woke me up this morning and said they needed somebody to fight in this weight class, so I decided to give it a try," he said.

The second fight of the night was the one that seemed to elicit the greatest response from the crowd.

The 587th Signal Company's Pvt. Philip Clash, who defeated the 554th Military Police Company's Pfc. Kenneth Busby in what was easily the evening's bloodiest battle, said the event more than lived up to his expectations.

"I didn't expect such a big crowd," said Clash, who, like Busby, said he had never boxed competitively before. "I'd definitely do it again."

### A matter of pride

Clash said his performance was fueled in part by his corner man and best friend, Cpl. Roy Frank – and in part by a few naysayers who doubted his ability to find success in the ring.

"When people tell me I can't do something, I want to do it even more," he said.

The man on the receiving end of Clash's assault could attest to the power of that persuasion.

"He hits hard," Busby said. "It was going fine until I got a pretty bad nosebleed. He just went after the blood after that."

Busby and Clash traded punches until midway through the fourth round, when referee Larry Goodman stopped the fight on the advice of Capt. Michael McCrudden, who served as ringside medic.

Busby's corner man, Pvt. Enver Medrano, a fellow member of the 554th MP Co., said the result of the fight didn't diminish his respect for his friend's effort.

"I'm proud of him," Medrano said. "Our whole company should be proud of him. This shows that MPs don't back down."

Busby had barely cleared the blood from his face before he began focusing on his return to the ring.

"That's why I joined the Army," Busby said. "To fight."

*For more information about boxing or other activities offered by the 6th ASG Sports and Fitness office call 430-4512/civ. 0711-680-4512 or e-mail searcy@6asg.army.mil.*



photos by Hugh C. McBride  
**Lt. Cmdr. Glenn Yeck of Headquarters, U.S. European Command, lands a left jab to the face of the 587th Signal Battalion's Cpl. Luke Wilson Jan. 10 in Stuttgart.**



**[Above] Wilson gets between-rounds advice from his corner man.**

**[Right] Pvt. Philip Clash receives his winner's trophy from 6th ASG Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris.**



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